



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of : Gregory P. Ruhlander
U.S. Serial No. : 10/826,133
Filed On : 4/16/04
For : INTEGRATED CABLE CONNECTION AND SHIFTER
HOUSING
Examiner : Vicky A. Johnson
Art Unit : 3682
Attorney Docket No. : DUR-115

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 12, 2007. Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-22 under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by Koenig U.S. 5,884,531.

Both independent claims 1 and 16 recite the combination and method including a shifter housing mounting a shift lever used to generate a vehicle or automotive drive unit within a passenger compartment.

The Examiner is essentially reading that limitation out of the claims, asserting that much shifter housing can be read on the fitting 34 of Koenig. That fitting does not mount a shift lever within the passenger compartment of a vehicle.

Koenig describes fitting 34 as "having features molded into its outside periphery that mate with and snap into a transmission end 2 or shifter mounting bracket." (col 8, lines 10-